



# NEWS

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## **CHINESE SECTION OF MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY IN BOSTON APPROVED FOR NOMINATION TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin has announced that the Massachusetts Historical Commission approved an amendment to the 2009 National Register nomination for Mount Hope Cemetery at its December 12, 2018 meeting. The nomination amendment is associated with the 2017 Multiple Property Nomination for Historic Resources Associated with Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans in Boston. The nomination will now be submitted to the National Register of Historic Places at the National Park Service in Washington, DC, for final consideration and designation.

“The Massachusetts Historical Commission is dedicated to preserving the Commonwealth’s rich historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources,” Galvin said. “The inclusion of the Chinese section of Mount Hope Cemetery in the National Register is an important step in wider recognition of the role that Chinese immigrants and Chinese-Americans played in the history of Boston and of our state.”

The site is one of six historic resources around the Commonwealth approved for nomination to the National Register by the Massachusetts Historical Commission at this meeting. Secretary Galvin serves as Chairman of the 17-member board, which meets regularly and considers historic resources eligible for the National Register four times a year.

The three sections containing the graves of Chinese in Mount Hope Cemetery constitute the largest burial ground of Chinese in New England. The earliest burials were in the late 19th century, and interments continue today. In addition to the burial plots and modest stones, there is a temple, known as a “Fun Toon,” that was reconstructed in the early 2000s through the fundraising efforts of the Chinese Historical Society of New England. The development of this National Register nomination follows the creation of a National Register context for Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans in the City of Boston and is the second such site listed following the creation of the context.



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The National Register is the nation's official listing of significant historic resources. In Massachusetts, there are more than 70,000 properties listed in the National Register. The Massachusetts Historical Commission has been administering the National Register of Historic Places program in Massachusetts since 1966.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is the office of the State Historic Preservation Officer and the State Archaeologist. It was established in 1963 to identify, evaluate, and protect important historical and archaeological assets of the Commonwealth. More information about the Commission's programs may be found at [www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc).

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